

CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics

A Ready-Reference Book of Chemical and Physical Data



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SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

[α]	specific rotation	flam	flammable	peth	petroleum ether
>	above, more than	flr	fluorescent	pk	pink ²
<	below, less than	fr	freezes	Ph	phenyl
?	unknown	fr. p.	freezing point	pl	plates
aa	acetic acid	fum	fuming	pr	prisms
abs	absolute	gel	gelatinous	Prak	J. Prak. Chem.
ac	acid	gl	glacial	purp	purple ²
Ac	acetyl	gl	golden	pw	powder
acc	acetone	gr	green ¹	Py	pyrimidine
AFCL	Aliphatic Fluorine Com- pounds	gran	granular	pym	pyramids
al	alcohol ¹	gy	gray ³	rac	racemic
ALD	Aldrich Handbook of Organic Chemicals and Biochemicals	h	hot	rect	rectangular
alk	alkali	hex	hexagonal	red	red
Am	J. Am. Chem. Soc.	HDOC	Heilbron Dictionary of Organic Compounds	res	resinous
Am	amyl (pentyl)	hp	heptane	rh	rhombic
amor	amorphous	htng	heating	rhd	rhombohedral
anh	anhydrous	hx	hexane	s	soluble
agu	aqueous	hyd	hydrate	sc	scales
as	asymmetric	hyg	hygroscopic	sec	secondary
Atlas	Atlas of Spectral Data and Physical Constants for Organic Compounds	i	insoluble	sf	softens
atm	atmospheres	ign	ignites	sh	shoulder
b	boiling	in	inactive	silv	silvery
B	Beilstein	in	inflammable	sl	slightly
Ber	Chem. Ber.	inflam	infusible	so	solid
bipym	bipyramidal	irid	iridescent	sol	solution
bk	black ²	iso	isooctane	solv	solvent
bl	blue ²	J	J. Chem. Soc.	Solvents	Entries in this column in medium type means sol- uble; entries in boldface means very soluble
BOSC	Bayant, et. al., Organo- silicon Compounds	JOC	J. Org. Chem.	sph	sphenoidal
br	brown ²	KHOC	Kaufman Handbook of Organometallic Compounds	st	stable
bt	bright	L, l	levo ³	sub	sublimes
Bu	butyl	la	large	suc	supercooled
bz	Benzene	lf	leaf	sulf	sulfuric acid
CAS	Chemical Abstracts	lig	ligroin	sym	symmetrical
c	percentage concentration	liq	liquid	syrr	syrrup
ca	about (circa)	lo	long	ta	tablets
chl	chloroform	lt	light	tbl	trichinic
co	columns	m	melting	tert	tertiary
col	colorless	m	meta-	Tet	Tetrahedron
col	concentrated	M	molar (concentration)	tetr	tetragonal
cor	corrected	M	Merck Index, 7th Edition	THF	tetrahydrofuran
cr	crystals	mcl	monoclinic	to	toluene
cy	cyclohexane	Me	methyl	tr	transparent
d	decomposes	met	metallic	trg	trigonal
d	line in the spectrum of sodium (subscript)	micr	microscopic	undil	undiluted
D, d	dextro ³	min	mineral	uns	unsymmetrical
δd	slight decomposition	mod	modification	unst	unstable
dil	diluted	mut	mutarotatory	v	very
diox	dioxane	n	normal chain, refractive index	vac	vacuum
distb	distillable	N	normal (concentration)	var	variable
dk	dark	N	nitrogen ²	vap	vapor
Dl, dl	racemic ³	nd	needles	vic	vicinal
dlq	deliquescent	o-	ortho-	visc	viscous
DMF	dimethyl formamide	og	octahedral	volat	volatile or volatilis
E	Elsevier's	og	orange ²	vt	violet ²
eff	efflorescent	ord	ordinary	w	water
Et	ethyl	org	organic	wh	white ¹
eth	ether ⁴	orh	orthorhombic	wr	warm
exp	explodes	p-	para-	wx	waxy
extrap	extrapolated	pa	pale	ye	yellow ²
fl	flakes	par	parallel	xyz	xylene
		PCHE	Egloff Physical Constants of Hydrocarbons		

¹ Generally means ethyl alcohol.

² The abbreviation of a color ending in "sh" is to be read as ending with the suffix "ish," e.g., grsh means greenish.

³ D, L generally mean configuration and d, l generally mean optical rotation, but there are many examples in the chemical literature for which the meaning of these symbols is ambiguous and/or interchangeable.

⁴ Generally means diethyl ether.

⁵ N indicates a position in the molecule.